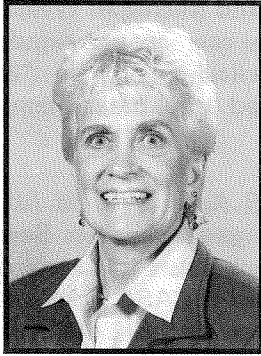


# Hammerstrom's

for the people  
in the 17th Senate District

# Hotline



State Senator  
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**FREE BOOKLETS HELP PLAN FOR PEACE OF MIND** There are many important decisions to make when planning for the future. Designating what kind of medical care you would like to receive is one of those important decisions. Creating an advanced directive is the best way to ensure your health care wishes are clearly understood in the event you are unable to make your wishes known. Including your health care preferences in your will or designating an individual to instruct doctors and other health care professionals on your behalf will prevent confusion when it comes to determining the best course of treatment. *Planning for Your Peace of Mind* is a free publication that provides basic information about writing a will and creating advanced directives for health care. It also includes forms for implementing your health care decisions. To request a copy of this publication, please contact my office.

**DID YOU KNOW?** An advanced directive can be as general or specific as you wish. It can include your choice of medications you may or may not want to take and your choice of where treatment is provided.

**HEART LOGO TO INDICATE ORGAN DONATION** The Michigan Senate recently approved legislation that would allow organ donors to place a "heart logo" on the front of their driver's license or identification card indicating donor consent. Currently, licenses or cards issued by the Secretary of State have a special surface on the back that can be written on to allow for the organ donor consent. Senate Bill 301 would allow the addition of the logo on the front to make the consent more noticeable in the event of an emergency. It also requires the Secretary of State to create an organ donor registry and allows for organ donor advocacy groups, such as Gift of Life, to have electronic access to the registry.

**MDOT CONSTRUCTION MAPS NOW AVAILABLE** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has released its annual construction map to help motorists navigate around major road and bridge projects this season. "Paving the Way" is available at MDOT's Transportation Service Centers, region offices, and Michigan Welcome Centers. The maps will also be posted at state rest areas. In addition to the printed map, you can access a regularly updated electronic version on the MDOT website at [www.michigan.gov/mdot](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot) by clicking on the "2005 Construction Map, Paving the Way" link. To request a construction guide or a regular road map, please contact my office.

**LEGISLATION INTRODUCED TO AID CHILDREN THROUGH THE JUDICIAL PROCESS** April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Senate recently introduced legislation to further protect Michigan's children. Senate Bill 379 would create the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Act to allow a Circuit Court to establish a court-appointed special advocate program. Under current law, courts may already appoint CASA volunteers. SB 379 would also set criteria and guidelines for those volunteers. According to the bill, prospective CASA volunteers would have to be at least 21 years of age and have a demonstrated interest in children and their welfare. They also must receive instruction in recognizing child abuse and neglect, cultural awareness, child development, and court procedures. The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary.

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If you would like to receive future issues of Hammerstrom's Hotline via e-mail,  
please contact me at [SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SenBHammerstrom@senate.michigan.gov)